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THE WASHINGTON HERALD

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NO. 3448. WEATHER: FAIR AND WARMER. WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1916. ONE CENT.

STEAMER TORPEDOED WITH 20 AMERICANS REPORTED ON BOARD

Sussex, Folkstone to Dieppe, Struck in Channel, Near French Coast—Some Passengers Removed, Say Late Reports.

BULLETIN

London, March 25.—(Saturday)—The Times this morning prints a dispatch from Folkestone which says that the Sussex was torpedoed at 4:20 p. m., while off the French coast.

Several British destroyers and other British and French vessels went to the packet's assistance and removed passengers.

It is reported that there were twenty Americans, including couriers of the embassy at London, aboard the Sussex.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
London, March 24.—With Americans believed to be among her 390 passengers, the Channel Packet Sussex, from Folkestone for Dieppe, met a mishap this evening off the French coast.

The common report tonight was that she was torpedoed. A Lloyd's dispatch says that the ship sunk. Reports from another source late tonight says that she is still afloat and that rescue vessels are standing by.

FOURTH VICTIM OF TORPEDOES.

The Sussex was the fourth ship to be victim, presumably of torpedoes or mines, today.

A Lloyd's dispatch at midnight said that the Mississippi and the Dominion Liner Englishman, out of Liverpool, had been sunk.

The report says that sixty-eight persons were rescued. It neglects to say whether these were all on board.

Special Cable from Portland, Me.
The Englishman was a steamship of 2,257 tons. She sailed from Portland, Me., for United Kingdom ports via St. Nazaire on February 15.

The other victims reported today were the British steamship Fulmar, of 1,270 tons, and the Danish steamer Christian-sund, of 1,017 tons. The latter carried a crew of twenty-two, all of whom were saved. Of the Fulmar's crew, eighteen are reported saved. Whether any were lost is not mentioned.

According to the belief of Robert P. Skinner, American consul general in London, there were a number of Americans among the passengers of the Sussex when she steamed from Folkestone at 1:20 o'clock this afternoon.

When she came to grief at 7 o'clock she was near Dieppe. She sent out alarm signals and a number of vessels hurried to her assistance.

All May Be Saved.
She was near enough to her destination when the trouble occurred for vessels to reach the spot from Dieppe harbor, and this gives rise to the expectation that all on board may be saved. Reports received by the Continental Traffic Office of the Brighton Railroad encouraged the belief that all on board are alright.

WAITE ADMITS BUYING POISON TO KILL PECK

Dentist Declares, However, He Did So at Request of Father-in-Law.

REMOVED TO BELLEVUE

Prisoner Tells Judge Swann He Has No Remorse for His Actions.

Special to The Washington Herald.
New York, March 24.—District Attorney Edward Swann today said he had practically clinched his case against Dr. Arthur Warren Waite, young surgical dentist and tennis expert, accused of the murder of his millionaire father-in-law, John E. Peck.

Dr. Waite was removed in an ambulance to the prison ward of Bellevue Hospital at 7 o'clock tonight. He appeared calm.

A few hours before, lying in bed in his fashionable apartment in Riverside Drive, his mind almost freed from the thrall of opiate, Waite, it is alleged, made a confession to Judge Swann.

The alleged confession fell but one point short of the admission that John E. Peck died Sunday, March 12, from a lethal dose of arsenic administered with criminal intent by the defendant.

Waite's Statement.
Under the bedside grilling of the district attorney, Waite said:

"I bought the arsenic that killed Dr. Peck and gave it to him. He begged me to give him the poison, saying that he wished to take his life. Mr. Peck was racked with illness and stricken with insupportable grief over the death of his wife.

"I did not kill Mr. Peck. This I swear. I know that you do not believe me and that this means the electric chair. Do with me as you like. I do not care whether I live or die. I have no remorse. A man has a right to take his life if he wishes."

Waite's confession came after he had been confronted with facts amassed by detectives working under Judge Swann. He would not talk to Judge Swann until the latter gave him the name of a druggist and physician through whom Waite had secured one and one-half grams of arsenic on March 3, three days before the death of Peck.

In Doubt as to Statement.
When he had concluded a seventy-minute interview with Waite, Judge Swann said he had not made up his mind whether the dentist's statement was intended as a crafty design to formulate an insanity defense or whether the young man hopes to escape the major penalty of his crime.

That his statement to Judge Swann was part of a general scheme he has worked out seemed apparent after a dramatic incident that occurred just after the district attorney left the room. Waite summoned Raymond Schindler, a private detective representing the Peck family, and asked him to give his colored maid, Dora Miller, a \$100 bribe to inform Judge Swann that she had heard Peck say to him:

"Arthur, you must get me some poison. I have determined to commit suicide."

The district attorney's office during the day discovered several places where Waite bought poisons between December 21 and March 3.

Embassy Has No Details.
The consulate had received no official details of the mishap, and neither had the American embassy.

Nothing is said about a submarine or torpedo in a guarded statement issued shortly before 11 o'clock tonight by the Brighton Railroad.

"The Sussex, sailing under a French flag in the Folkestone-Dieppe service," it announced, "met with a mishap somewhere off Dieppe on her passage today. There were 396 passengers aboard and a crew of about fifty, but it is impossible at present to give further particulars nor is the passenger list available."

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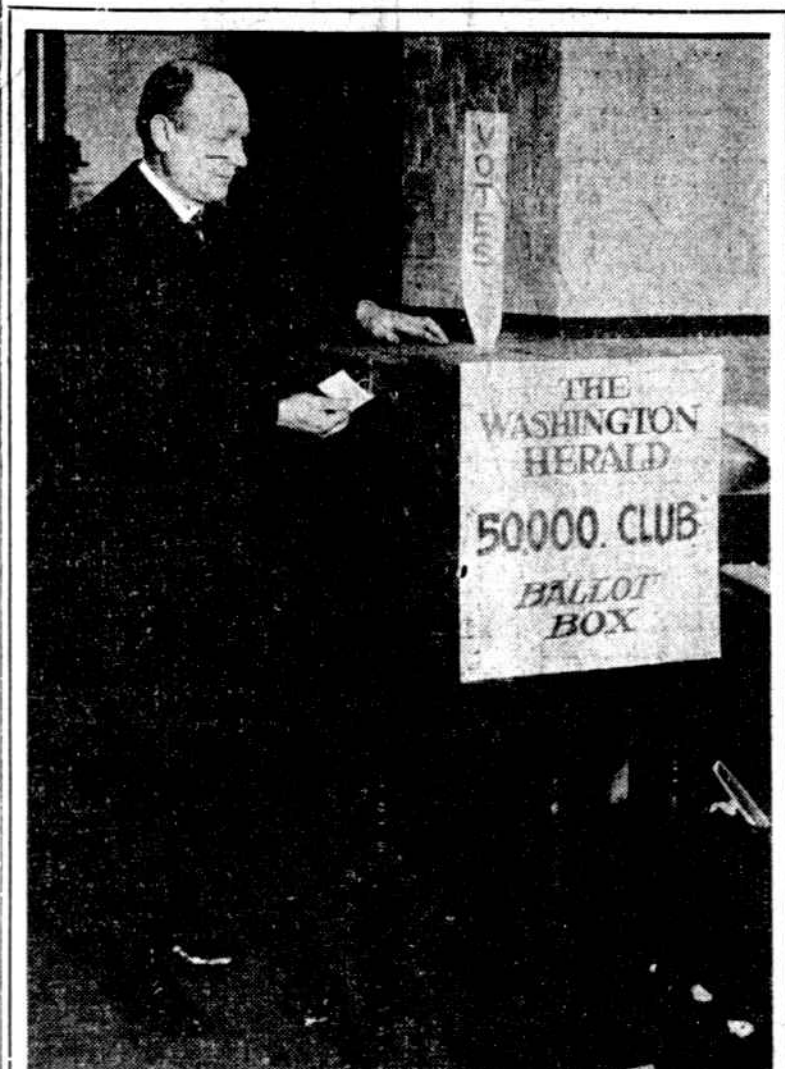
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The Washington Herald's "50,000 Club" Contest Ends as Clock Strikes 12

Excited Contestants Watch Joseph Berberich, Chairman of Committee of Judges, Put Seal on Ballot Box—Circulation of The Herald Boosted by Thrilling Campaign.



CHAIRMAN JOSEPH BERBERICH, of the judges' committee, sealing the ballot box containing the secret votes in The Washington Herald "50,000 Club" contest. Mr. Berberich officially declared the contest closed at midnight last night and put the seal on the ballot box, subject to the action of the full committee of judges, composed of Mr. Berberich, chairman of the ad vigilance committee of the District; P. T. Moran, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and R. P. Andrews, president of the Retail Merchants' Association.

The Washington Herald's "50,000 Club" contest, launched for the purpose of increasing the circulation of the paper to the 50,000 mark, came to a close last night.

With scores of contestants assembled in the office of the contest manager, enthusiasm ran high during the closing moments of the campaign.

There was an eagerness that could be read in the faces of the competitors as they heard the hour of 12 strike and then were notified officially of the termination of the crusade.

The office was crowded throughout the afternoon and evening with contestants eager to place their final quota of subscriptions in the ballot box. Up until the stroke of 12 the subscriptions continued to pour in.

Berberich in Charge.
Joseph Berberich, chairman of the Advertising Vigilance Committee, who like him is chairman of The Washington Herald board of judges, presided at the ceremonies which closed the contest.

P. T. Moran, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and also a member of the board of judges, likewise was present. The third member of the board of judges is Ross P. Andrews, chairman of the Retail Merchants' Association.

At the hour of midnight Mr. Berberich announced that the contest was officially ended. He then placed a seal over the little slot in the top of the ballot box.

The box was locked up and will be safely guarded until the judges set the auditors at work summing up the final results. The corps of auditors will start work early this morning and will toil ceaselessly until the task is completed. It is unlikely that the winners will be announced before Tuesday morning. Absolutely no hint as to the winners will be given until that time.

End Brings Thrills.
Excitement was given the closing of the contest by the secret voting arrangement that had been in operation for several days. Under this arrangement contestants have been enabled to deposit their votes secretly without their competitors knowing the strength of their final efforts. Because of the fact that many of the contestants had massed large votes to deposit at the last hour, an uncertainty exists in the minds of the contestants as to who the winners will be.

The voting last night was done by some secretly, by others openly. Every contestant in The Herald Building at closing time was given a warning a few minutes before midnight that the end was drawing near, and thus was enabled to enter his votes before the ballot box was sealed.

Work Until Last Minute.
Many contestants worked up until the last hour gathering subscriptions. Some sent in their votes by mail. All letters bearing postmarks showing an hour prior to last midnight will be honored and the votes contained in them will be recorded, even though the letters themselves do not reach The Herald office until today.

"This contest has been the most successful ever conducted in this city, in my opinion," said the contest manager last night. "The city has been secured for subscriptions. Every government office, every section of the city, every profession and business has been canvassed by contestants. And the number of subscriptions that has been received is enormous. It has been hard work, but each contestant has been rewarded. Even those active members who do not win prizes will have received commissions of ten percent on all subscriptions secured. This has been a contest in which every one won something."

It is stated in several reports that the steamship Aurora, which carried the McIntosh branch of the expedition to the Ross Sea, broke loose from her moorings, leaving Capt. McIntosh and nine of his men on the shore of Ross Sea.

One report received at Sydney indicates that Sir Ernest has reached a point on the Ross Sea shore, where a base had been established for him by Capt. McIntosh in command of the branch of expedition which set out from New Zealand.

No confirmation can be had of this report and little credence is given to it by friends of the famous explorer here.

CABINET VOTES DOWN PLAN TO CALL MILITIA

Wilson's Advisers Convinced That All Is Moving Satisfactorily in Mexico.

SURE OF CARRANZA

Lansing Brags Reports of Herrera's Defection as "Pack of Lies."

Bitter resentment in administration circles over what is regarded as an organized effort to embroil the United States into war with Mexico flared up on all sides in Washington yesterday.

Following a meeting of the Cabinet, at which a proposal to call out the National Guard for border service was voted down, members of the President's official "family" left the White House declaring that a campaign of misinformation was on to make it appear that the Carranza government was not working in harmony with the United States for the capture of Villa.

In the Senate Chairman William F. Stone, of the Foreign Relations Committee, in a seething speech, attacked the Republicans for seeking to force trouble between this country and Mexico.

At the State Department Secretary Lansing characterized as a "pack of lies" reports coming from the border that Gen. Luis Herrera, Carranza's military commander at Chihuahua, had gone over to the side of Villa with 2,000 Carranza followers.

There were strong indications that Maj. Gen. Bell, commanding the American forces at El Paso, would be called to account for having let it be known that he had received reports tending to confirm the defection of Herrera.

Bureau Made Proposal.
Discussion of the question of calling out the National Guard for border duty, thus leaving the regular army forces free for whatever eventualities may develop, is understood to have been brought before the Cabinet by Postmaster General Burleson, who, being a native of Texas, is said to have been appealed to by members of Congress from border States to see what could be done to provide better protection along the boundary line.

Lansing Has Good News.
The Cabinet discussion hinged directly on reports which members of Congress have been receiving from their constituents in border towns insisting that Carranza was secretly massing large numbers of Mexican troops along the international boundary. Secretary Lansing presented to his colleagues information received yesterday morning from American consuls in northern Mexico denying these reports.

French Drive Teutons Back.
Attempt of Germans to Extend Front North of Verdun Repulsed.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
London, March 24.—A German attempt to extend the battle front north of Verdun further to the west was repulsed by the French today after their first line of trenches had been penetrated. The midnight official statement from Paris reports that the Kaiser's troops were driven out of the trenches they had occupied with the loss of some prisoners.

The attack was launched in the district of Vauquois, in the Argonne. Its aim, apparently, was to prevent the French from dispatching reinforcements to the army in the Malancourt and Lemort-Homme sectors from this direction.

According to French statements, this was the only infantry attack during the last twelve hours. Previously, a Berlin official communication stated the Germans engaged in extending their gains in the Malancourt region, occupied several additional trenches west of Haucourt.

That crisis is rapidly approaching in the battle northwest of Verdun is indicated in dispatches from both French and German sources today.

News from Berlin, passed by the censor, is to the effect that a large French army has been surrounded on three sides northeast of Verdun. It is now held as within a sack, the neck of the bag being slightly more than three miles across. Against this neck the Germans are now directing a heavy artillery bombardment, prior, apparently, to infantry storming.

One Dies in Explosion.
Hopewell, Va., March 24.—One person was killed, five were seriously injured, and a few received burns about the body when an acid pipe exploded in a plant of the du Pont Powder Company's factory here this afternoon.

Wireless Outfits Seized.
San Antonio, Tex., March 24.—The Texas civil authorities, at the request of Maj. Gen. Funston, are seizing all the wireless outfits of amateurs along the border. It was feared that military secrets might be betrayed.

Miner Killed by Coal Fall.
Pottsville, Pa., March 24.—Michael Dolan, of Shenandoah, was instantly killed today and Joseph Prunus had his leg broken when they were caught under the fall of coal, while timbering at the Draper Colliery at Gilberton today.

Roumania to Help Allies.
Rome, March 24.—The Tribune learns from a high diplomatic source that Roumania has consented to enter the war on the side of the allies as soon as the Anglo-French forces in the Balkans open their offensive against the Germans and Bulgarians.

VILLA NOT IN TRAP SET BY U. S. TROOPS CLOSE TO NAMIQUIPA

Bandit Leader Escapes Armed Circle and Flees Into San Miguel Country, State Latest Reports from the Border

HERRERA MOVING TO PARRAL

Col. Dodd's Column Declared to Have Reached Madre After Train Wreck—Seven Soldiers Returned to Fort Bliss.

El Paso, March 24.—Three Americans, two men and a woman, were murdered today on a ranch eight miles west of Columbus, N. Mex., according to information received here.

The names of the Americans could not be learned. Mexican bandits attacked the house and burned the building and ran off the live stock.

Sheriff Peyton J. Edwards telegraphed to Gov. Ferguson tonight urging that the National Guard of Texas be called out.

By H. H. STANSBURY.
Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
El Paso, March 24.—Francisco Villa is not in the trap formed by the armed circle now closing about a band of his followers near Nami-quipa. He escaped three days ago into the San Miguel country either through his own cunning, or with the aid of friendly Carranzistas.

This information, brought to El Paso today from Elvalle, caused less interest to be taken in the reports of the enveloping movement in which United States troops are participating.

HERRERA MOVING TO SOUTH.
Luis Herrera has left Chihuahua City with his troops and is moving south in the direction of Parral. This section of Chihuahua is infested with Villistas. Whether Herrera intends joining the Villa forces or fighting them is not known.

The news of his movements was contained in a telegram received by Gen. Gaviro, the Carranza commander at Juarez, late this afternoon. The State Department officials are silent over the telegram from Consul Letcher at Chihuahua, which said Herrera was still loyal to Carranza.

U. S. PROPOSAL IS REJECTED.
British Decline to Disarm Merchantmen in Return for Let-up by Subs.

Great Britain and her allies will not entertain any proposal looking toward a bargain with Germany on the question of armed merchantmen and submarine warfare. This fact was made clear yesterday when Secretary of State Lansing received a reply from the entente allies to a proposal that they disarm their merchant ships in return for a promise from the central powers that submarines refrain from sinking merchantmen without warning.

The reply, delivered to the State Department by the British Embassy, expressed courteous appreciation of the good offices of the United States in advancing the suggestion, but emphasizes the fact that the allies wish to rest their case definitely and finally on the basis of international law, the rules of which should not be changed while the war is in progress.

President Wilson and Secretary Lansing had expected that the entente would take this stand and to a great extent it bears out the position which President Wilson himself has taken with the central powers on all matters pertaining to rules of international law.

Although the reply was cabled here to the British Embassy by the British foreign office, it represents the joint decision of Great Britain and her allies. It is short and to the point, refraining from arguments and lengthy discussions, and is therefore more in the nature of a simple reiteration of the entente allies' known position than a document setting forth new views on the subject.

Seek British Cruiser.
Norfolk, Va., March 24.—Coast guards have been instructed to look for wreckage along the coast in consequence of the finding of the seven log books of the British cruiser Cumberland on the beach at Chicomico, N. C., yesterday. The finding of the log books at once gave rise to the belief that the Cumberland had been sunk either by a gale or by a German warship.

Threatened with Arrest.
The answer to the last request is said to have been a threat of arrest if any correspondent left camp without permission.

It is understood that a permanent garrison will be established at Madre with the Sixteenth and Twentieth Infantry, from which the cavalry can operate as a base. Private information received in El Paso tonight says this movement is now underway.

The question of supplies for the troops farthest south has been temporarily relieved. The agents of the Ballou ranch, owned by Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, notified the quartermasters' and commissary department to take possession of all food-stuffs on the ranch. The supplies will be available as soon as they can be reached. They consist of 2,000 bushels of beans, 60,000 bushels of corn, 20,000 head of beef cattle and fowls. Villa has been living off the products of this ranch for months but the figures given are said to represent only a minimum of what is left.

The army officers here expressed themselves as very grateful for the supplies.



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—is the first of a series of complete stories. Each with its individual climax and conclusion running under the serial title of

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FOUR-COLOR COMIC SECTION

DRAMATIC SECTION FRATERNAI NEWS
SOCIETY SECTION ARMY AND NAVY NEWS
SPORTING SECTION CLUB NEWS
BOY SCOUT AND GIRL SCOUT ACTIVITIES

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All the News of All the World.

Delivered to Your Door **ONE CENT** Or At Your News Dealers

Joe Engel Weds Kentucky Girl

Former Hurler of Nationals
Elopes with Miss Mary B. Polhamus.

Special to The Washington Herald.
Memphis, Tenn., March 24.—Joe Engel, member of the Minneapolis baseball team, formerly with Washington, and Miss Mary B. Polhamus, of Hickman, Ky., were married Thursday, according to a dispatch from Hickman, Ky., where the Minneapolis team has been training. Engel and his wife are here with the Minneapolis team, but Engel tonight could not be located.

According to the report from Hickman, they eloped to Union City, Tenn., a nearby town, and were quietly married Thursday. The bride, who is 18 years old, is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Polhamus, of Hickman. Engel had been in Union City as the guest for about two months of Joe Cantillon, manager of the Minneapolis team.

Orpet Trial Date Set.
Waukegan, Ill., March 24.—Judge Donnelly today set the trial of William Orpet, the University of Wisconsin student, charged with the murder of Marian Frances Lambert, for April 10.

Salandra Off to Front.
Rome, March 24.—Premier Salandra left for the front today to hold a final conference with King Victor Emmanuel before going to Paris to attend the grand allied council of war.

Shackleton May Be Marooned at Ross Sea Base in Arctic

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
London, March 24.—Conflicting reports were received here today telling of the return of Sir Ernest Shackleton, the British explorer, from his expedition to the Antarctic.

One report received at Sydney indicates that Sir Ernest has reached a point on the Ross Sea shore, where a base had been established for him by Capt. McIntosh in command of the branch of expedition which set out from New Zealand.

No confirmation can be had of this report and little credence is given to it by friends of the famous explorer here.

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